

Message Text

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SUBJECT: MRS. ECHEVERRIA, FOREIGN SECRETARY RABASA SPEAK ON
PRESIDENT ECHEVERRIA'S FOREIGN POLICY

1. SUMMARY: THE FOREIGN SECRETARY AND MRS. ECHEVERRIA YESTERDAY DESCRIBED AT SOME LENGTH THE NATURE OF PRESIDENT ECHEVERRIA'S ACTIVIST FOREIGN POLICY. LARGELY A LITANY AND ACCOUNTING (CONTACTS WITH OTHER HEADS OF STATE, TRAVEL ABROAD, AND THE LIKE), THE SPEECHES BROKE NO NEW GROUND AND WERE RELATIVELY MODERATE IN TONE. END SUMMARY.

2. MRS. MARIA ESTHER ZUNO DE ECHEVERRIA (WIFE OF PRESIDENT) AND FOREIGN SECRETARY EMILIO RABASA ON JUNE 12 ADDRESSED SOME 2,000 WOMEN ON THE SUBJECT OF MEXICAN FOREIGN POLICY. THE AUDIENCE WAS LARGELY COMPOSED OF WOMEN IN GOVERNMENTAL POSITIONS, BUT WIVES OF DIPLOMATS ACCREDITED IN MEXICO WERE ALSO INVITED. (THERE WAS REPORTEDLY SOME GRUMBLING AMONG THE LATTER AT BEING SUBJECTED TO "LECTURES" ON MEXICAN FOREIGN POLICY. THE MEETING WAS APPARENTLY IN THE NATURE OF A "BRIEFING" WITH RELATION TO THE FORTHCOMING UN-SPONSORED WCIWY AND ANOTHER SESSION IS BEING HELD TODAY, JUNE 13.)

3. MRS. ECHEVERRIA'S REMARKS WERE BRIEF, THIRD WORLDISH, AND UNDISTINGUISHABLE FROM THE GENERAL RUN OF MEXICAN RHETORIC ON INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS. SHE SAW THE "UNJUST
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INTERNATIONAL STRUCTURE WHICH HAS DIVIDED THE WORLD INTO

DEVELOPED COUNTRIES AND UNDERDEVELOPED BUT POTENTIALLY RICH COUNTRIES" AS "REPRESENTATIVE OF THE IRRATIONALITY OF THE INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC SITUATION". SHE CALLED FOR DEEP ANALYSIS OF "INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS BASED ON THE IDEA OF FORCE AND THE POLICY OF TERROR". "HUNGER AND UNDERDEVELOPMENT", SHE SAID, "... SUBSTITUTING FOR OPEN WAR, PROLONG AND ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL WAR WHICH AFFECT ... THE DEVELOPMENT OF THIRD WORLD COUNTRIES." MEXICO, ACCORDINGLY, "REAFFIRMS THE HYPOTHESIS THAT THE TRUE SOLUTION WILL ONLY BE FOUND WHEN THERE EXISTS A NEW FRAMEWORK OF RIGHTS AND DUTIES WHICH WILL SUBSTITUTE FOR UNDERDEVELOPMENT A REAL CHANGE IN ALTERNATIVES AND AN ECONOMIC, POLITICAL, AND SOCIAL SYSTEM WHICH WILL MAKE POSSIBLE HUMAN PROGRESS."

4. RABASA, WITH OCCASIONAL DEPARTURES FROM TEXT, READ A 27-PAGE DOCUMENT ON MEXICAN FOREIGN POLICY UNDER ECHEVERRIA. THIS CONSISTED MAINLY OF A DETAILED ACCOUNT OF ECHEVERRIA'S TRAVELS ABROAD, HIS MEETINGS WITH (35) HEADS OF STATE, HIS ATTENDANCE AT INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCES, THE ESTABLISHMENT OF RELATIONS WITH VARIOUS COUNTRIES, AND HIS SPONSORSHIP AND WORK ON BEHALF OF THE CHARTER OF ECONOMIC RIGHTS AND DUTIES OF STATES (CERDS). HIGHLIGHTS ARE DESCRIBED BELOW.

A. ON NUCLEAR DISARMAMENT: NATIONS POSSESSING NUCLEAR WEAPONS HAVE NO RIGHT TO FIX "THE LIMITS OF LIFE" AND THEY SHOULD NOT "HOLD THE SWORD OF LIFE OR DEATH OVER ALL OF US".

B. PRESIDENT ECHEVERRIA HAS FOLLOWED A "POLICY OF PRESENCE", I.E., HE HAS CONSIDERED IT ESSENTIAL TO FOLLOW AN ACTIVE POLICY, TRAVEL ABROAD, ESTABLISH CONTACTS.

C. ON THE U.S.: THERE WERE MEETINGS WITH BOTH PRESIDENT NIXON AND PRESIDENT FORD. THE PROBLEM OF COLORADO RIVER SALINITY WAS RESOLVED IN DEFINITIVE AND PERMANENT FASHION.

D. KEY FACTORS IN INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS IN OUR TIME ARE ECONOMIC IN NATURE.

E. PRESIDENT ECHEVERRIA HAS WORKED HARD TO REMEDY THE SITUATION OF THE "DISUNITED STATES OF LATIN AMERICA", I.E. ON BEHALF OF LA
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UNITY. NOTABLE IN THIS RESPECT HAVE BEEN EFFORTS TO DEVELOP THE LA ECONOMIC SYSTEM (SELA) -- "AN INTEGRATIONIST POLICY OF ACTS, NOT (SIMPLY) GOOD INTENTIONS."

F. UNDER ECHEVERRI, MEXICO HAS ESTABLISHED OR RE-ESTABLISHED RELATIONS WITH VARIOUS COUNTRIES, MOST RECENTLY WITH "THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM AND WITH THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH VIETNAM, SMALL BUT GREAT COUNTRIES WHICH

HAVE BROUGHT TO TRIUMPH THE CAUSE OF SELF-DETERMINATION AND
OF NON-INTERVENTION, WHICH HAS WON THEM THE RESPECT OF
MEXICO." (MRS. ECHEVERRIA, ON THE SPEAKERS' PLATFORM WITH
RABASA, LED VIGOROUS APPLAUSE)

G. ON CUBA: MEXICO AT THE QUITO CONFERENCE VOTED WITH "THE
UNSUCCESSFUL MAJORITY AGAINST A SMALL MINORITY AND ABSTENTIONS
WHICH ACHIEVED THE ABSURDITY ... BY WHICH A SMALL NUMBER OF THE
OPPOSED OR THE INDIFFERENT IMPOSED ITS WILL UPON THE MAJORITY."
RABASA EXPRESSED THE HOPE THAT THE FORTHCOMING MEETING IN
SAN JOSE WILL LEAVE OAS MEMBER COUNTRIES FREE TO HAVE RELATIONS
WITH CUBA IF THEY SO DESIRE.
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